

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ABU DH 02293 110554Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 SP-02 NSC-05 INR-05
CIAE-00 L-02 DODE-00 ACDA-10 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00
EUR-08 NEA-07 IO-06 /068 W
-----085959 111153Z /41

R 091055Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6483

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T ABU DHABI 2293

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS2 MASS, SO, US, TC

SUBJ: CONSULTATIONS ON SOMALIA

REF: (A) STATE 185967, (B) STATE 180916, (C) STATE 161221,
(D) ABU DHABI 2198 (NOTAL)

SECRET

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1. DURING MY MEETING WITH FONMIN SUWAIDI ON AUGUST 8,
WE DISCUSSED SITUATION IN SOMALIA AND THE US ANNOUNCE-
MENT IN PRINCIPLE TO SELL ARMS TO SOMALIA. I MENTIONED
THAT WE HAD BEEN GIVEN A LENGTHY SHOPPING LIST BY THE
SOMALIS WHOCH WE ESTIMATED WAS ENOUGH TO EQUIP TWELVE
DIVISIONS. THIS WAS CLEARLY BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF REALITY.
OUR APPROACH WAS TO CONSULT WITH OTHER WESTERN NATIONS

TO SEE IT THROUGH A CONSORTIUM APPROACH WE COULD DETERMINE WHAT GAPS EXISTED OR MIGHT OCCUR IF THE SOVIETS CUT OFF THEIR SUPPLIES. THROUGH THIS APPROACH, WE HOPED TO MAKE THE SOMALIS LESS DEPENDENT ON THE SOVIET UNION,

2. SUWAIDI SAID UAE HAD ALSO RECEIVED A LENGTHY MILITARY SHOPPING LIST IN ARABIC DURING THE JULY 21-22 VISIT OF BRIGADIER AHMAD SULAYMAN ABDALLAH (REF D) WHICH HE ASSUMED MUST BE THE SAME LIST THE SOMALIS HAD GIVEN US. HE ASKED IF THE SOVIETS WERE NOT STILL SUPPLYING ARMS TO SOMALIA. WHEN I REPLIED I HAD NO INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT, SUWAIDI SAID IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT SOVIETS WERE CONTINUING TO SEND SOME MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO SOMALIA.

3. SUWAIDI THEN REITERATED POINTS MADE EARLIER TO ME BY MINSTATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS GHUBBASH (REF D). WHILE UAE WOULD WANT TO CONTINUE ITS ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA, IT HAD NO INTENTION OF FINANCING OR PURCHASING ANY ARMS FOR THE SOMALIS. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GREAT MISTAKE FOR UAE TO GET INVOLVED IN SUCH ACTIVITY WHICH COULD SET A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT.
DICKMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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